

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 HA-05 BIB-01 CU-04 CIAE-00 DODE-00
PM-05 H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01
PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 AID-05 /074 W
-----012852 162016Z /43

P R 161612Z NOV 77
FM AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 1580
AMEMBASSY BELGRADE PRIORITY
INFO AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS
AMEMBASSY PRAGUE
AMEMBASSY WARSAW

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BELGRADE FOR USDEL CSCE

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: SHUM, CZ, NL
SUBJECT: GON REACTS TO CZECH HUMAN RIGHTS CRITICISM

REF: WARSAW 8211

1. MFA ANNOUNCED NOV 15 THAT IT HAD ASKED THE CZECHOSLOVAK
AMBASSADOR TO THE HAGUE FOR CLARIFICATION CONCERNING A CAMPAIGN
IN THE PRAGUE PRESS ACCUSING DUTCH POLICE OF KIDNAPPING AND
BRAINWASHING THE TWO SONS OF A CZECH-BORN WOMAN. MFA SPOKES-
MAN SAID: "WE HAVE NOTHING AGAINST OTHER COUNTRIES POINTING
OUT HUMAN RIGHTS VIOLATIONS IN HOLLAND, BUT WE GAVE CZECH
AUTHORITIES A FULL REPORT AT THE END OF OCTOBER WHICH MADE
IT CLEAR THAT THE ACCUSATIONS DID NOT HOLD UP."

2. AS ONE OF THE FEW EUROPEAN GOVERNMENTS TO SPEAK OUT ON
HUMAN RIGHTS VIOLATIONS WITH SOME DEGREE OF SPECIFICITY AT
CSCE IN BELGRADE, GON IS PARTICULARLY SENSITIVE TO THE CRITICISM
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FROM THE CZECHS REPORTEDLY VOICED IN BELGRADE AND IN THE CZECH
PRESS. IN ADDITION, FOREIGN MINISTER VAN DER STOEL IRRITATED
HIS HOSTS ON A VISIT TO CZECHOSLOVAKIA EARLIER THIS YEAR
BY MEETING THE LATE JAN PATOCKA, A LEADER OF THE "CHARTER
77" GROUP.

3. ACCORDING TO DUTCH OFFICIALS, THE AFFAIR CONCERNS TWO

BOYS OF 13 AND 15, SONS OF MR. BON, DUTCH-BORN BUT STATELESS,
AND HIS WIFE MARCELA, CZECH-BORN BUT A DUTCH CITIZEN. ON
OCT 12, DURING AN ABSENCE OF THEIR PARENTS ON VACATION IN
CZECHOSLOVAKIA, THE BOYS WERE TAKEN TO A LOCAL POLICE
STATION AFTER INJURING PASSERS-BY WITH AIRGUN PELLETS. AFTER
ABOUT FOUR HOURS THEY WERE DELIVERED HOME TO THEIR AUNT. WHEN
THEIR PARENTS RETURNED FROM VACATION ON OCT 16, MR. BON SENT HIS
SONS TO POLICE HEADQUARTERS WITH A LETTER PROTESTING AGAINST THE
TREATMENT OF HIS SONS AND TOLD THE POLICE HE DID NOT WANT HIS
BOYS BACK UNLESS HE RECEIVED A WRITTEN STATEMENT THAT THE BOYS
HAD NOT BEEN SEXUALLY ASSAULTED OR OFFERED DRUGS WHILE THEY WERE
AT THE POLICE STATION. AFTER SPENDING ONE DAY AND NIGHT AT THE
HOME OF A POLICEMAN AND HIS WIFE, THE BOYS WERE TAKEN TO
THE CHILD PROTECTION COUNCIL. ON OCT 27 THEY WERE COLLECTED
BY MRS. BON AND QUESTIONED BY THE CZECH EMBASSY.
MCCLOSKEY

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: HUMAN RIGHTS, GOVERNMENT REACTIONS, ALLEGATIONS, ATROCITIES, POLICE FORCES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 16-Nov-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977THEHA05818
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770424-1106
Format: TEL
From: THE HAGUE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19771150/aaaabqxy.tel
Line Count: 78
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 9bb23b18-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 77 WARSAW 8211
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 08-Mar-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 562568
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: GON REACTS TO CZECH HUMAN RIGHTS CRITICISM
TAGS: SHUM, CZ, NL
To: STATE BELGRADE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/9bb23b18-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009